

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 PM-04 SP-02 SS-15 PA-02
PRS-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7906
THE WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE
INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

UNCLAS CARACAS 5627

SECSTATE FOR ARA; USIA FOR ILA GEORGE MILLER, IOP/M, IPS, IBS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, ROSALYNN), VE
SUBJECT: MRS. CARTER'S TRIP, MEDIA REACTION

1.-SATURDAY EL UNIVERSAL RUNS 'GLOSAS' COLUMN BY INFLUENTIAL AD PARTY
LEADER LUIS ESTEBAN REY ENTITLED "ROSALYNN CARTER'S LATIN AMERICAN MI
SSION."

PIECE IS VERY FAVORABLE TO MRS. CARTER'S TRIP AND HER PERSONAL ABILIT
IES.

EXCERPTS:

2.-"AS THE TRIP IS NOT ONLY A GESTURE OF GOODWILL AND COURTESY BUT;
ACCORDING TO WASHINGTON ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL INCLUDE 'SERIOUS AND
IMPORTANT CONVERSATIONS' ON THE LATIN AMERICAN POLICY OF HER
HUSBAND, MANY DOUBTS OVER MRS. CARTER'S ABILITIES TO ACCOMPLISH
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HER DELICATE MISSION HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED IN LATIN AMERICAN CAPITALS
AND IN WASHINGTON. OFFICIAL CIRCLES IN WASHINGTON ATTRIBUTE THESE
REACTIONS TO 'THE MACHO MENTALITY' PREDOMINANT IN LATIN AMERICAN I
BELIEVE THIS IS AN EXAGGERATION. IN ANY CASE THESE DOUBTS SHOULD BE
PUT TO REST WHEN ONE NOTES THAT TO PREPARE HERSELF FOR THIS MISSION
THE FIRST LADY WAS BRIEFED ON THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF
THE LATIN AMERICAN AREA IN THIRTEEN HOUR-LONG SESSIONS...."

3.-"...ACCORDING TO INFORMATION FROM WASHINGTON, MRS. CARTER WILL EXPLAIN AND AMPLIFY DETAILS OF THE LATIN AMERICAN POLICIES SET FORTH IN TWO SPEECHES BY HER HUSBAND: THE ONE OF APRIL 14 BEFORE THE OAS AND THE ONE OF MAY 26 AT NOTRE DAME UNIVERSITY...."

4.- PIECE GOES ON TO ANALYZE CARTER'S NOTRE DAME SPEECH, WITH EMPHASIS ON CARTER'S PRAGMATISM AS WELL AS MORALITY: "HE (CARTER) NOTED THAT WE LIVE IN AN IMPERFECT WORLD. HE SAID THAT HE UNDERSTANDS

THE LIMITS OF MORAL PERSUASION AND THAT HE HAS NO ILLUSIONS OF IMMEDIATE CHANGES.....CERTAINLY MRS. CARTER WILL OFFER ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF THE IDEAS SET FORTH BY HER HUSBAND IN THIS IMPORTANT SPEECH.

MOREOVER, IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THE TRIP BY THE FIRST LADY OF THE UNITED

STATES WILL IN FACT BE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES

AND HERS."

5.-ALL MAJOR CARACAS PAPERS GIVE PROMINENT PLAY TODAY TO DETAILED STORIES ON THE SUBSTANTIVE TALKS BETWEEN MRS. CARTER AND PERUVIAN PRESIDENT MORALES-BERMUDEZ. EL UNIVERSAL GIVES EXTENSIVE CABLE-PAGE SPACE TO LENGTHY AP STORY AND PHOTO OF MRS. CARTER AND THE PRESIDENT DURING DINNER TOAST. FIVE-COLUMN, FOUR-DECK HEAD READS: "ARMS, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND RETURN TO CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT WERE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED BY FIRST LADY OF US AND PERUVIAN PRESIDENT;" SUBHEAD, ROSALYNN CARTER, WHO WILL CONTINUE ON TO BRAZIL AFTER A DAY OF REST, HELD TALKS WITH PERUVIAN CHIEF OF STATE MORALES-BERMUDEZ. EL NACIONAL UNCLASSIFIED

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CABLEPAGES BOXED STORY ON PERU TALKS AND MORALES-BERMUDEZ' HIGH PRAISE FOR MRS. CARTER. AP STORY'S TWO-COLUMN, TWO-DECK HEAD READS: "ROSALYNN IN BRAZIL TODAY."

6.-EL NACIONAL ALSO CABLEPAGES COMMENTARY BY THEIR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT RODOLFO SCHMIDT, ENTITLED "AN EXTRAORDINARY TWO WEEKS IN INTERAMERICAN RELATIONS." SCHMIDT POINTS TO A NUMBER OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION ACTIONS IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS WHICH REFLECT THE VERY SUBSTANTIAL AND BENEFICIAL NATURE OF CARTER'S INTEREST IN LATIN AMERICA. AMONG THEM IS MRS. CARTER'S TRIP: "ALSO OF SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE

IS THE LAST TWO WEEKS, IS THE GOOD WILL AND FAMILIARIZATION TRIP OF MRS. CARTER TO SEVEN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. EVEN THOUGH THE WHITE HOUSE IS INSISTING ON THE SUBSTANTIVE NATURE OF THE CONVERSATIONS; WHAT IS ESSENTIAL COMES FROM MRS. CARTER'S PERSONAL SITUATION: HER CLOSENESS TO THE PRESIDENT NOT ONLY NOW, BUT SINCE THE BEGINNING OF HIS VARIOUS POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS. WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS NOT THE RESULTS OF THE TRIP, BUT RATHER THE FACT THAT CARTER SENT HIS ALTER-EGO, FROM EMOTIONAL TO POLITICAL, AS A SIGNAL OF HIS SERIOUS AND

GOOD INTENTIONS."

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